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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) 3'-end nucleoside unit comprising phosphoramidite that is a compound represented by the following formula:

 $-(N)-O-(R1)Si(R2)-(C_6H_4)-(CH_2)n-O-P(OR3)N(R4)(R5)$ (I)

wherein [[(N)]]

5' Base

of formula I represents <u>aany</u> nucleoside or its derivative, <u>-O-(R1)Si(R2)-(C₆H₄)-(CH₂)n-O-P(OR3)N(R4)(R5) is attached at the 3' position of a sugar of the nucleoside, each of R1, R2, R4 and R5 is an alkyl or aryl group, R3 is a [[phosphate-]]protecting group, and n is an integer of from 1 to 5.</u>

- 2. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein R1 and R2 are an alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms.
- 3. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein the aryl group of R1 and R2 has a substituent of alkyl, nitro, cyano, halogeno or methoxy group.

- 4. (**Currently Amended**) The compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 3 wherein the [[phosphate-]] protecting group is 2-cyanoethyl, 4-nitrophenylethyl, N-(trifluoroacetyl)aminobutyl, or 4-[N-methyl-N-(2,2,2-trifluoroacetyl)amino]butyl group.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The compound according to Claim 4 wherein the [[phosphate-]] protecting group is 2-cyanoethyl.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein R4 and R5 are an alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, benzyl, phenyl, or naphthyl group.
- 7. (Original) The compound according to Claim 6 wherein R4 and R5 are an isopropyl group.
- 8. (Currently amended) The compound according to Claim 1 wherein [[a]] the benzene ring structure $(-(C_6H_4)-)$ of formula I has a substituent.
- 9. (Previously Presented) The compound according to Claim 8 wherein the substituent of the benzene ring structure is selected from the group consisting of alkyl having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, halogeno, nitro, cyano and methoxy groups.
- 10. (**Currently Amended**) The compound according to Claim 1, which is has the structure 5'-[O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)], 3'-O-[4-O-(2-cyanoethyl N,N-diisopropyl phosphoramidite) benzyl-diisopropylsilyl]thymidine.
- 11. (**Currently Amended**) The compound according to Claim 1, which is has the structure 5'-[O-(4,4'-dimethoxytrityl)], 3'-O-[4-O-(2-cyanoethyl N,N-diisopropyl phosphoramidite) benzyl-diisopropylsilyl]2'-deoxyadenosine.

Base

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12. (Currently Amended) A solid-phase support having the <u>a</u> 3'-end nucleoside unit according to claim 1 introduced thereon, wherein the 3'-end nucleoside unit is attached to the solid-phase support as represented by the following formula:

Base
$$\begin{array}{c} & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & &$$

wherein of formula II represents a nucleoside or its derivative, -O-(R1)Si(R2)- (C_6H_4) -(CH₂)n-O-P(OR3)XO)-(CH₂)n is attached at the 3' position of a sugar of the nucleoside, each of R1 and R2 is an alkyl or aryl group, R3 is a protecting group, X is S or O, and each n is an integer of from 1 to 5.

- 13. (Original) The solid-phase support according to Claim 12 having the 3'-end nucleoside unit at a ratio of 20-30 μ mol/g.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The solid-phase support according to Claim 12, which is <u>a highly</u> cross-linked polystyrene (HCP)HCP solid-phase support.
- 15. (Currently Amended) A method for the synthesis of a nucleic acid oligomer comprising synthesizing a nucleic acid oligomer on with the use of the solid-phase support according to Claim 12.
- 16. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 15, which is comprising reacting a phosphoramidite unit one with the use of an activating agent comprising an alcohol-type compound, or a mixture of the alcohol-type compound and an acid catalyst.